

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING JACKIE
THOMAS ON HER 50TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jackie Thomas, of San Jose, California, on her 50th birthday, which was Saturday, September 29, 2001.

Mrs. Thomas was born in 1951 in Little Rock, Arkansas. When she was three, her family moved to California, where they settled in the Bay Area. A member of a single-parent family, Mrs. Thomas helped to take care of her working father and raise her two younger brothers. After marrying and having two children of her own, Mrs. Thomas continued to devote herself to her family. Her selfless dedication to family has been a hallmark of her life.

The achievements of Mrs. Thomas' life include more than her success as a mother and wife. She was the first in her family to achieve a college degree. She also maintained her own career as a customer service and inside sales representative in the electronics industry, while supporting her husband's career goals and caring for two small children.

I extend to Mrs. Thomas the happiest birthday wishes on her 50th birthday and wish her many more in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO FEDEX

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize FedEx for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of businesses like FedEx signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, FedEx has assisted UPCO and their customers nationwide providing the costs of mail-

ing and distribution of dog supplies to the New York/New Jersey German Shephard Rescue. The patriotism and persistence of FedEx is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "RUSSIAN
RIVER LAND ACT"

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the proposed legislation titled "Russian River Land Act" on behalf of Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated. The purpose of this legislation is to ratify an agreement that settles a land ownership issue at Russian River on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

The agreement that this legislation ratifies was reached on July 26th of this year, after three years of negotiations between the Alaska Native regional corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc. and the United States Forest Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The agreement covers lands at the confluence of the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

The area surrounding the confluence of the Russian and Kenai is rich in archeological cultural features. It is also the site of perhaps the most heavily used public sports fishery in Alaska. Because of the archeological resources at Russian River, Cook Inlet Region, Inc. made selections at Russian River under the section of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act that allowed for selections of historical places and cemetery sites. The lands at the confluence are managed in part by the U.S. Forest Service and in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Seeking to protect the public's access to the sports fishery at Russian River, the two federal agencies and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. have reached agreement that requires federal

legislation in order to become effective. Because this agreement provides for the continuing ownership and management by the two federal agencies of the vast majority of lands at Russian River, the public's right to continue fishing remains unchanged from its current status.

Through negotiation and agreement, the two federal agencies and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. have found a way to fulfill the intent of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in a way that fully protects the interests of the public. I congratulate all three parties on reaching final accord on the long-standing unresolved issue of land ownership at Russian River. I urge passage of the Russian River Land Act.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATES ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate St. John Lutheran Church in Cudahy, Wisconsin on its 95th anniversary as a congregation.

St. John was founded by a small group of area Slovak immigrants, and received its charter on October 7, 1906 as a member of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELC). Later, that synod merged with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and St. John became a member of the Missouri Synod's SELC district.

Over the years, St. John has grown and prospered, adding programs like its Day Care Ministry and a second ministry and workshop site called the Life Enrichment Center along the way. In 1999, the church's renovation project expanded the sanctuary and fellowship hall, and added new office space.

St. John's theme for its 95th anniversary year is "Heritage of Faith; Foundation for the Future." What a fitting statement for a church that has played such an integral part in the spiritual life of the community for so many years, and continues to be a very special place to worship and grow in service to God and to His people.

The congregation is blessed with two gifted and devoted pastors, Reverend Carl H. Krueger, Jr., who also serves as president of the SELC District, and Reverend Richard Schauer. Other dedicated members of the St. John ministry team are the church's current vicar, Rodger Williams, parish nurse Marcia Isherwood, and Karen Erickson, who serves as the day care director.

The members and staff of St. John Lutheran are actively involved in many community activities, such as Project Concern and Cudahy/St. Francis Interfaith for the Elderly, Pastor Kreuger is also the chaplain at Wisconsin Air National Guard's 128th Air Refueling Wing in Milwaukee, the unit where I once proudly

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